1	I CLAIM:
2	1. A clamp applicator comprising:
3	a housing having a motor with an ON/OFF and a
4	FORWARD/REVERSE switch;
5	a stationary first gripper located near a band entry
6	port in the housing;
7	a second gripper having a linkage to the motor to
8	move forward by means of a mobile gripper
9	housing toward the entry port and backward;
10	a cutter in the housing for cutting a tightened
11	clamp;
12	wherein a clamp tightening mode of operation powers
13	the second gripper backward while gripping a
14	segment of a clamp, thereby tightening the
15	clamp;
16	wherein a clamp cutting mode of operation powers the
17	second gripper forward, thereby releasing its
18	grip on the clamp segment and activating the
19	cutter to cut the clamp segment;
20	wherein the cutter further comprises a pivot mount
21	in the housing, and the second gripper has a
22	mechanical interface with one end of the cutter
23	to pivot a cutting end of the cutter into
24	contact with the segment of the clamp during the
25	cutting mode of operation, and

1 wherein the mobile gripper housing further comprises a release lever actuator which in the 2 3 clamp cutting mode contacts a pivotable stationary gripper release lever, thereby 4 5 releasing the stationary first gripper from the 6 segment of the clamp after the cutting mode 7 operation.

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9 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first gripper has a jaw that prevents the clamp segment from moving 10 forward during the cutting mode of operation. 11

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The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the first gripper 13 jaw travels in an angled slot so as to allow a proper slack 14 in the clamp segment during the cutting mode of operation. 15

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The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the linkage 17 4. further comprises a gear assembly and a torque adjustment 18 19 assembly for the second gripper, thereby providing a variable tensioning capability to the clamp applicator for 20 accommodating a plurality of clamp widths. 21

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5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the housing 23 further comprises a screw drive for the second gripper. 24

- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the motor is a DC
- 2 type, the housing has a battery pack, and the housing has a
- 3 DC input receptacle.

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- 5 7. The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a
- 6 detachable bench mounting base for the housing.

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- 8 8. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising and
- 9 AC/DC converter and a foot pedal controller for the motor,
- 10 wherein both speed and direction are controlled by the foot.

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- 12 9. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a free
- 13 end clamp adapter having a free end port on the housing and
- 14 located forward of the entry port.

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- 16 10. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a
- 17 manual release lever for each of the first and second
- 18 gripper.

- 20 11. A clamp applicator comprising:
- 21 a housing having a motor;
- a powered pulling member having a clamp which
- 23 removably attaches to a clamp segment;
- a powered cutter to cut the clamp segment; and

1 an automatic clamp release mechanism which releases the clamp segment after the powered cutter cuts the 2 3 clamp segment. 4 The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the pulling 5 member further comprises a screw powered housing which 6 7 contains an angled slot with a movable jaw therein. 8 9 13. The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising a 10 stationary gripper located near a clamp entry port, said 11 stationary gripper having a movable jaw to hold a segment of 12 a tightened clamp. 13 The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the motor 14 further comprises an ON/OFF and FORWARD/REVERSE switch, 15 wherein the FORWARD mode powers the pulling member rearward, 16 17 thereby pulling and tensioning the clamp, the reverse switch 18 powers the pulling element forward, forcing a cutter into the clamp segment, and resetting the tool for the next 19 20 clamp. 21 22 The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the cutter has a 23 pivot and a lever arm, and the pulling member housing forces

the lever arm to activate the cutter.

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- 1 16. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the motor is a
- 2 DC type, and the housing receives a battery pack.

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- 4 17. The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising a
- 5 bench mount for the housing, an AC-DC converter, a foot
- 6 switch controller and a DC input port on the housing.

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- 8 18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the pulling
- 9 member housing has a clamp exit port to allow the clamp
- 10 segment to leave the housing in the REVERSE-RESET mode.

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- 12 19. The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising a gear
- 13 assembly and a variable torque clutch to enable a range of
- 14 clamp widths to be applied.

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- 16 20. The apparatus of claim 19 further comprising a free
- 17 end clamp adapter to removably fasten adjacent to an entry
- 18 port of the housing.

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- 20 21. The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising an
- 21 automatic stationary gripper release assembly.

- 23 22. The apparatus of claim 21 further comprising a
- 24 manual release lever for each of the stationary gripper and
- 25 the clamp.

1 2 A clamp applicator comprising: a housing having a motor, a clamp entry port, a 3 pulling member means functioning to pull a clamp 4 5 segment away from the clamp entry port via a linkage to the motor; 6 7 a cutter means functioning to cut the clamp segment via a linkage to the motor; and 8 an automatic clamp release means functioning to free 9 the clamp segment after a cut. 10 11 The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the cutter means 12 13 further comprises a pivotable arm having a cutting end and a lever end, and the linkage to the motor further comprises a 14 15 gear assembly moving the pulling member means against the lever end. 16 17 18 25. The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a stationary gripper means function to hold the clamp segment 19 20 during a cutting operation. 21 22 The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the motor is a 23 DC type, and the housing receives a battery pack.

The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising a free end clamp adapter removably attachable adjacent to an entry 2 port of the housing. 3 4 The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising a 5 variable torque transmission means for the motor to transmit 6 an adjustable force to the pulling member means, thereby 7 8 enabling an application of various width clamps. 9 10 29. The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising a bench mount, and AC/DC converter, a DC port on the housing 11 and a foot activated controller for the motor. 12 13 The apparatus of claim 25 further comprising a 14 15 manual release lever for each of the pulling member means and the stationary gripper means. 16 17 18 A clamp applicator comprising: a housing having a motor with an ON/OFF and a 19 FORWARD/REVERSE switch; 20 a stationary first gripper located near a band entry 21 port in the housing; 22 23 a second gripper having a linkage to the motor to move forward by means of a mobile gripper 24

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housing toward the entry port and backward;

1	a cutter in the housing for cutting a tightened
2	clamp;
3	wherein a clamp tightening mode of operation powers
4	the second gripper backward while gripping a
5	segment of a clamp, thereby tightening the
6	clamp;
7	wherein a clamp cutting mode of operation powers the
8	second gripper forward, thereby releasing its
9	grip on the clamp segment and activating the
LO	cutter to cut the clamp segment;
L1	wherein the cutter further comprises a pivot mount
12	in the housing, and the second gripper has a
L3	mechanical interface with one end of the cutter
L <b>4</b>	to pivot a cutting end of the cutter into
L5	contact with the segment of the clamp during the
16	cutting mode of operation; and
17	a manual release lever for each of the first and
L8	second gripper.